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INDIANA QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF HISTORY

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GEORGE S. COTTMAN, *Editor*

EDITORIAL.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indiana Historical Society some time since, Miss Eliza G. Browning was appointed to confer with the patriotic societies in the State with the view of enlisting their interest in this magazine. The result thus far is that the Indiana societies of Colonial Dames, Sons of the Revolution and Sons of the American Revolution have each pledged ten dollars annually toward its support. Others, we trust, will respond favorably. As a further result we will doubtless receive through these societies matter of interest to their members. Elsewhere in this issue will be found a surprisingly long list, hitherto unpublished, of Revolutionary soldiers' graves, which have been located through the Daughters of the American Revolution.

OLD PORTABLE THRESHER.

In our last issue a posthumous paper by the late Benjamin S. Parker described an old-time threshing machine which did its work while moving, and we expressed some curiosity in a footnote and a desire for further information. A letter from Mr. John Ade, of Kentland, refers us to his history of Newton county for further description of the machine in question, which we take pleasure in quoting:

"The next step in advance was the traveling threshing machine, which got its power from gearing attached to the hind wheels of the machine when in motion. When threshing from the shock

the driver would pass along by a row of shocks, and one or more men afoot would throw a sheaf from each shock as it passed. A man riding on a platform would feed the grain to the machine, the straw would be scattered behind the machine, and the grain be caught in a large box under the cylinder. This machine was provided with a fan and the grain was made comparatively clean. There were generally four horses used on the machine, and sometimes six. When threshing from a stack, they would load some ten dozen sheaves on the platform, then drive around a circle large enough to thresh that amount of grain, and repeat the operation."

The history of Newton county was reviewed in our issue of September, 1911. We cannot forbear quoting from Mr. Ade's letter a little compliment of the kind to which we are susceptible: "I have," he says, "been a subscriber to your magazine, I think, from the start, and have derived much valuable information from the reading of it."

ERRORS CORRECTED.

The following extract from a letter which we are asked to print in this magazine explains itself:

"In the Historical Society's publications, Vol. III. p. 244, of Executive Journal of Indiana Territory, are two errors that should be corrected:

"Joel Decowsey, Lieutenant 3d Reg. Ind. M.

"Shadrock Wathamay, Com. Ensign in same.

"These names should be Decoursey and Hathaway. Shadrock Hathaway was my grandfather, and I knew Mr. Decoursey very well.

Yours very truly,

"ELINOR HATHAWAY CAMPBELL."